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PATENT

wherein,

R^1 is a member selected from $-H$, $-OH$, and $(=O)$;

R^2 is a member selected from reactive functional groups, alkyl groups terminally substituted with a reactive functional group and internally substituted alkyl groups terminally substituted with a reactive functional group wherein said alkyl groups terminally substituted with a reactive functional group and said internally substituted alkyl groups terminally substituted with a reactive functional group are substituted with a reactive functional group which is a member selected from $-OR^3$, $-NHR^4$, $-COR^5$, $-SH$ and $-CH_2X^3$ wherein,

$-OR^3$ is a member selected from hydroxy, alkyl sulfonate and aryl sulfonate groups;

R^4 is H ;

R^5 is a member selected from H , X^3 and $-OR^6$, wherein

R^6 is a member selected from alkyl, substituted alkyl, aryl, substituted aryl, heteroaryl, substituted heteroaryl, heterocyclyl and substituted heterocyclyl groups; and

X^3 is a halogen;

X is a member selected from $-O-$, $-S-$ and $-NH-$; and

X^1 and X^2 are members independently selected from O and S .

REMARKS

Claims 1-108 are pending in the application as filed. Claim 4 is canceled and claim 1 is altered by amendment. Applicants respectfully request examination on the merits of the amended claim.

Amended claim 1 is fully supported by the specification as filed. Support for amended claim 1 is found both in the limitations of claim 4, as well as in the written description on page 18, lines 17-22.

As each of the elements of the amended claim are supported in the written description as filed, no new matter is added by the amended claim presently pending.